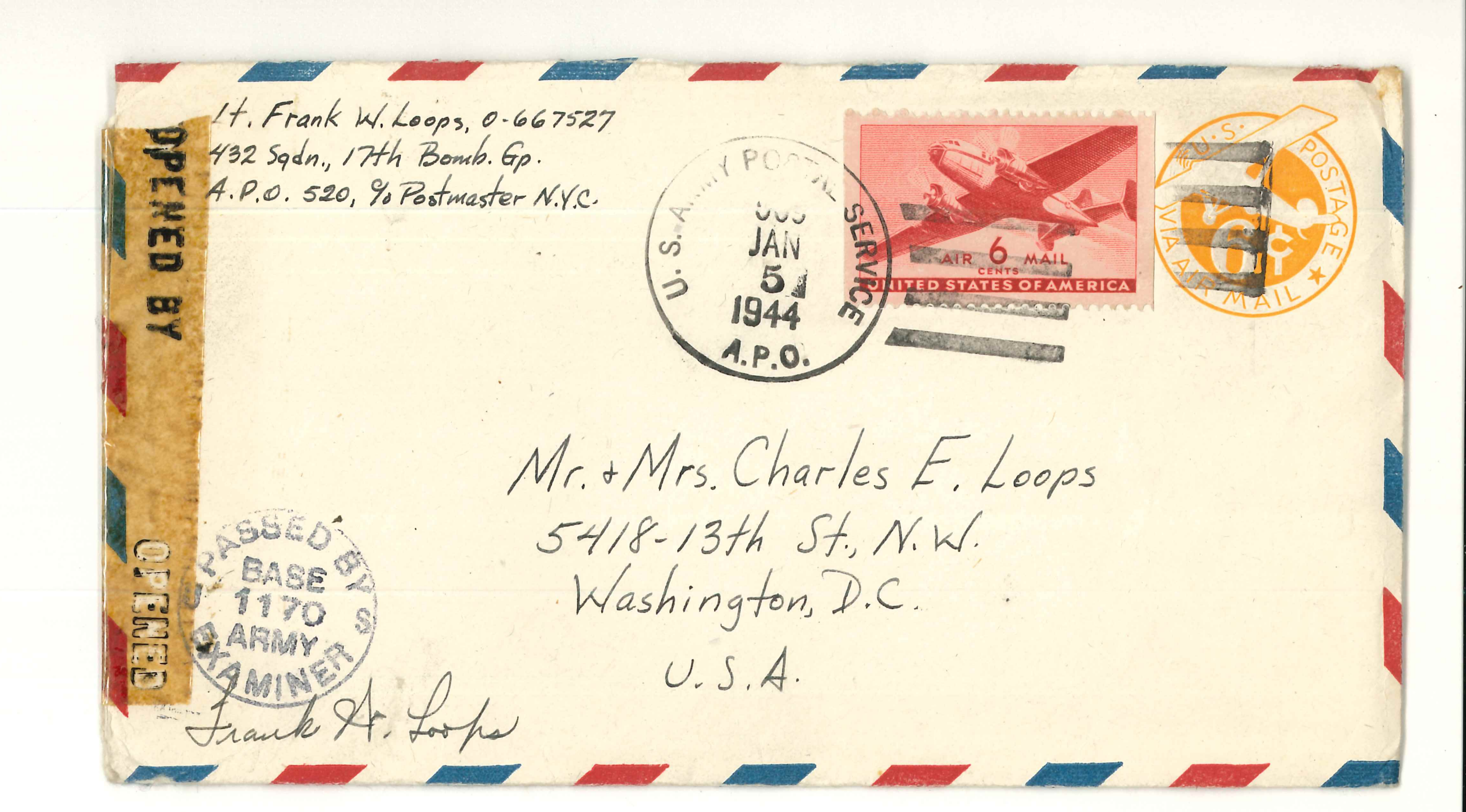


Lt. Frank W. Loops, 0-667527
432 Sqdn., 17th Bomb. Gp.
A.P.O. 520, % Postmaster N.Y.C.
U. S. ARMY POSTAL SERVICE
JAN
5
1944
A.P.O.
AIR 6 MAIL
CENTS
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
U.S. POSTAGE
VIA AIR MAIL
OPENED BY
OPENED
PASSED BY
BASE
1170
ARMY
EXAMINER
Frank W. Loops
Mr. + Mrs. Charles E. Loops
5418-13th St., N.W.
Washington, D.C.
U.S.A.

432 Sqdn., 17th Bomb. Gp.
A.P.O. 520, % Postmaster N.Y.C.
January 3, 1944

Hiya, Folks,

A day late but I wont mention it so maybe you wont notice! -

Another year. - Guess this makes the longest time any ~~x~~ of us have ever been away from home at one stretch, doesn't it? - Maybe this year will be better for us in lots of ways and we ~~can~~ all be spinning our yarns around the fireplace. And what yarns we will have to catch up on! - After all, last year wasn't so very bad to us, tho it did start to wind up a bit fast and hard for me, the last week of it. But past history is past so all we can do is look ahead and hope we don't have any repititions - even close ones!

The last week has gone by both slowly + fast. - Looking back on it, it all seems like a lot happened - but actually I'm finding it sorta hard finding something that's interesting to write about. - New Year's Eve passed by ~~sh~~ without too much excitement. - Some fellows shot off their guns a few times, but mostly we just gathered in our usual groups - gabbing - and probably every one either stayed up to see the new Year in - or if they didn't, were awakened by the shots. -

New Years day was a holiday of sorts. - We spent the whole day doing nothing much ex'pt working

on an improvement for our stove. - We are fast becoming heating engineers in our own rights. - With colder weather and all, we've gotten us a regular G.I. stove, dispensing with our little oil can. We're still burning gasoline & oil so don't have to worry with having coal or wood. -! It feels good, too. - Every morning there's a heavy frost and this morning I saw some ice on some of our water puddles!

Got a letter from Brother last week telling me of his attack. - What in the world do you suppose is the matter with him? - Don't see how it could have been a "kick back" from his stomach trouble unless he had been having some other trouble or indications. -

Did I tell you we now have a radio of sorts? - It is a set from one of the stripped planes. The only thing, tho, it ~~is~~ covers only the short wave frequencies. - We get England, Germany, France - and once in awhile pick up the American Short wave station in ~~Schenecty~~ Schenecty (?) New York. - Last night we were lucky enough to pick up a broadcast when they went from city to city in the U.S. with different top notch bands playing the best tunes of '43. - Even heard "Pistol Packing Mama" that we've heard so much <u>about</u> over here, but never had heard! - We all enjoyed

~~I~~ it immensely. - You should have seen us - everyone gathered all around and as they would come to someone's particular city, he would say, "man, oh, man - now you'll hear something"! Guess it was probably a re-broadcast of a previous program.

Yesterday - being Sunday - we were treated to a delightful & pleasant surprise. It seems that we had been supposed to have Turkey for our New-Year's dinner but it hadn't gotten there in time. Naturally, none of us knew of it so weren't disappointed when it didn't appear. - Only highly pleased to see it make its appearance yesterday. It "shore" was good! - What did you have - some boiled or baked ham and potatoes?

Sister's letters I got today said you had failed to get some of my mail - don't know what could have happened to it, ~~I~~ In fact I don't see how they manage to deliver as many as they do. But guess you don't miss anything of importance.

Got Mama's & Daddy's "pinch-hitter" letters, too, along with Daddy's regular letter telling me of the many pets you are sporting now. How come the sudden interest - are you figuring on having enough around on hand to make up a meal without using ration points? Fish cocktail followed by roasted canary makes

quite a meal - what gives for dessert?

Well, - it's getting to be bed time - and you can see I had nothing to really write so might as well go hit the hay. - I'm enclosing our Christmas menu, as I promised - so maybe that will help fill up space? - Besides - I'm "on" tomorrow so gotta sleep. -

Bye now and be good. Lots + Lots of Love,

Frank